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[COVID-19 @ Whittier \(full list of items\)](#)

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3-12-2020

## Quaker Campus issue (volume 18, issue 17)

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# QUAKER CAMPUS

March 12, 2020

Volume 18 — Issue 17

www.thequakercampus.org



DAVID MORENO / THE QUAKER CAMPUS

Classes have been moved online for the two weeks following spring break and those being held Friday, March 13 have also been cancelled.

## Studies stalled by corona concerns

Annalisse Galaviz  
NEWS EDITOR

Grab some disinfectant, your classwork, and lock yourself inside, because school is in session, all from the comfort — or perhaps discomfort — of your home. Whittier College announced via a Poet Health Update that beginning Monday, March 23, following Spring Break, all classes will be moved online as a proactive response to the developing situation around the global virus COVID-19, or coronavirus.

This is the first time in the College's history that classes will be solely taught online. The decision was not made lightly; currently, a team of administrators are meeting daily to keep up with breaking news regarding the coronavirus. To arrive at such a decision, the College "[took] guidance from the Department of Public Health and Center for Disease Control on these issues and then a decision [was] rendered by the institution. [It] also look[ed] at what other colleges and universities [were]

doing," according to Director of the Student Health & Wellness Center Stella Wohlfarth.

There are currently no known cases (confirmed or suspected) of coronavirus on the College's campus, and the College's goal is to keep it that way. Students will complete classwork from home, taught by faculty via Moodle, although more specific instructions are expected to be delivered to students from their respective professors before Monday, March 23. Faculty, which consists of professors and educators, will still be on campus for the rest of this week for training to make the move to online, though they will not be required to be on campus during remote instruction. However, staff, which consists of all employees that are not educators, will work from campus for the remainder of this week and during the online period.

Academics are not the only facet of the College that will be affected by coronavirus precautions as well. Extracurricular events hosting...

SEE "CLASSES FLEE" ON PAGE 3

## Problems at the push of a button

Dulce Martinez  
ASST. NEWS EDITOR

Whittier College students received an email on March 12 stating that the elevator in the Science & Learning Center would be shut off for two hours because it would be under repair. What students did not expect was to receive another eight emails, spread out through the span of two weeks, regarding the status of the elevator. This not only left students with a full inbox, but with questions regarding the reliability of the elevator. Some wondered how the elevator could have been broken so many times through this span of time, while others were concerned about getting to class.

There are many students and professors who rely on the elevator to get to class, and if their only means of getting there is not reliable, then they are put in a position that they have no control over. "I use the stairs, but a lot of my friends complain about [the elevator repairs] because that's how they get to class," second-year Katarina Estrada said. "This has never

happened while I have been here. I remember it broke down one time last year, and the fact that it has been a constant issue makes it so students aren't going to want to use it because they aren't sure if it's reliable."

Students who weren't affected were left frustrated for their peers who rely on the elevator to get to class as they didn't view it fair to their peers. "I'm more concerned with my peers regarding the elevator. I know some people in my classes who identify as disabled and have a harder time

*"The reason it took longer than expected to fix the elevator was due to the delivery of the valve."*

— James Dunkelman

Vice President for Finance and Administration

taking the stairs," said second-year Emily Then. "It's unfair for them to have to figure out a way to access their education when able bodied individuals have no problems taking the stairs. While it doesn't seem like a problem, it's a privilege that we take for granted."

On the morning of March 10, an email was sent out on behalf of Vice President of Academic Affairs

and Dean of Faculty sal Johnston, regarding the status of the elevator. The email consisted of an apology to the students at Whittier College, and acknowledged that there are students who heavily depend on the elevator to get to class who were affected during this past week. It went into detail regarding what was wrong with the elevator — a valve that needed replacement — and the fact that the school is working on a plan which will be better executed in the future if this issue is to arise again. Students and faculty were left wondering why the elevator took so long to be repaired in the first place. "The reason it took longer than expected

to fix the elevator was due to the delivery of the valve. As soon as the problem was identified, facilities placed the order for the valve and, once it arrived, the technician was able to properly repair it," said Vice President for Finance and Administration James Dunkelman. "Facilities has placed an order for another valve to have on-hand the next time it needs to be replaced."

Tori O'Campo  
MANAGING EDITOR

Autumn Dixon  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The student body and faculty were equally vexed when the College announced a Poet Health Alert earlier this week. This alert was issued in accordance with the updated guidelines. The California public health officials issued to prevent the potential further spread of COVID-19. "Among their recommendations include that colleges and universities 'consider alternatives to congregate programming within the campus including any large or communal activities,'" said the alert. As a result, the College announced that attractions with 100 or more attendees were suspended for the remainder of the academic year. "This will include athletic competitions, performances, student-organized events, admission events, and academic gatherings, among others," said the alert.

The following day, the College announced that classes would be moved to an online platform, effective the week following spring break. While there is frustration and confusion among teacher and students alike, regarding the cancellation of classes, a number of on-campus events were

suspended as well. Below is a list of suspended events, and organizer's plans to run them remotely.

Each year, *The Greenleaf Review*, historically compiled and edited by Sigma Tau Delta, publishes the literary works of art written by Whittier students. Organizers of the literary review were planning a launch party for the release of their rebranded look and theme, but are unsure of the gathering's fate. "We think *The [Greenleaf] Review* is going to be great, and would love to have a party to celebrate it, but we plan to adhere to the recommendations given to us," said Visiting Assistant English Professor Joe Donnelly, who is teaching the class that is now organizing the review. "Stay tuned."

Womxn's Leadership Association is an organization led by students working to end sexism and misogyny in professional and academic spaces. For the past month, WLA has been working on setting up a FEMPWR: Womxn's Empowerment Conference, which was set to take place on April 18. After seeing the Poet Health Alert, the organization chose to postpone the event, although their estimated attendance was less than the mandatory cancellation limit of 100 attendees. "We decided to cancel our events...

SEE "STUDENT EVENTS CANCELLED" ON PAGE 2

## QC ALERT

In compliance with the College's decision to move online, *The QC* will suspend print issues until the suspension is lifted. Please check our website [www.thequakercampus.org](http://www.thequakercampus.org) for new articles and updates.

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# Excellence since '96

Nathan Tolfa  
NEWS EDITOR

sal johnston has come a long way since he started teaching at Whittier as a Professor of Sociology in 1996. He received the Whittier College Harry W. Nerhood Teaching Excellence Award in 2003, and has worked as a chair of the Educational Policies Committee and chair of the faculty. He was appointed to the position of Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty in June of 2019. He was appointed to the roles, without the qualifier of interim, in February and started his new tenure as VPAA and DoF on March 1, 2020.

"I joked with colleagues that the interim [position] is like the longest job interview ever," said johnston. The requirements of the positions are the same, but now come with greater responsibility. johnston explained that, in the interim position, there were certain choices the College made that he was not required to weigh in on to the same degree as is expected of him now that he is locked into the position for the foreseeable future.

The responsibilities of the VPAA, according to johnston, resemble the responsibilities of a college provost — a position Whittier does not have. "A simple way to think about [the position] is as chief operating officer for the academic unit," said johnston. "At [this] level, [I'm] in charge of making [sure] that everything runs right." This means that he is in charge of overseeing various on-campus offices, such as Disabilities Services, the library, IT services, and the Center for Engagement with Communities, among other services. As the Dean of Faculty, he acts as the main liaison between faculty and administration. At other, larger colleges, these positions are split between two members of the administration. As for the

challenge of handling both roles, johnston is up for it. "[The] Dean of Faculty manages and advocates for the Faculty with the Senior Administration. So my job is to argue with myself about the faculty," said johnston.

While the workload can be excessive, johnston believes it is manageable for one person to serve both roles. Whittier is primarily an undergraduate institution; unlike other institutions, Whittier administration does not have to worry about managing a hospital or other extensive graduate programs, aside from its Teacher Credential program. johnston claims that this means all faculty and administration share the same goals of educating the student population.

It is also johnston's job to look ahead and try to anticipate challenges and set goals for the College down the line. johnston makes it clear that he cannot predict the future, but he can look at data and make some predictions about what the College will have to deal with in the coming years. "You pay attention to demographics," johnston said. "The college-age population is shrinking. We had a baby boom of sorts for a while, but that's tailing off." This means Whittier will likely have to consider ways to encourage non-traditional students to join the College.

Another project johnston is currently working on is forming a coalition of students to act as a body of communication between the students and johnston's office. "I don't think most students have any idea what this office is about. They know the Dean of Students, [but] they really don't know what this office is about," said johnston. He feels such an organization could alleviate this issue.

While these projects are still ongoing, one decision is certain: johnston is here to stay.

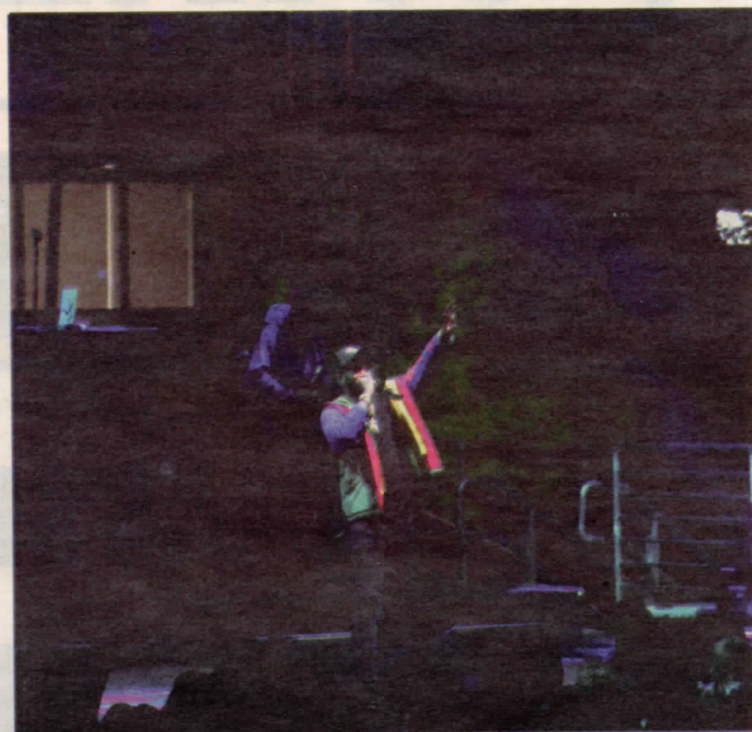
CONT. FROM "FOREGOING STUDENT FUNCTIONS" ON PAGE 1

events until...

...further notice, including our all-day Womxn's Empowerment Conference due to the transition of online classes and health alert," said third-year and WLA President Sumitra Bernardo. "We are following the protocol of the CDC and Whittier College. Although we were not directly contacted to postpone or cancel events, we made the decision to postpone these events to Fall semester 2020." As of now, the group has not made a decision on whether or not they will continue planning for smaller events and hosting regular meetings.

KPOET Radio and the Asian Student Association were collaborating on an open mic, food, games, and Asian cultural activities event called Asian Night: Celebrating Lived Experiences. Planned to take place during Diversity Week on March 27, KPOET Radio and the ASA have yet to meet to decide on whether or not to host the event. However, KPOET Radio management met Wednesday, March 11, to discuss how they plan on providing music to students over the weeks following Spring Break. "KPOET will continue live-streaming as normal, but whether or not our DJs will continue broadcasting is up in the air. We are still trying to figure that out," said DJ Manager Tanner Sherlock.

Last week marked the first screening of the fifth annual Spanish Film Festival hosted by Video Production Studios. The Festival — a series of five movies over five weeks — showcases films from Spanish-speaking countries that cover topics such as global economy, DACA, immigration and exile, feminism, politics, and more. "Because of the cancellation of on-campus classes and events, we've had to move the Spanish Film Festival online as well," said fourth-year



DAVID MORENO / THE QUAKER CAMPUS

Whittfest 2017 (shown above) will be the last Whittfest in 3 years following the cancellation of Whittfest 2020.

Executive Producer Lauren Blazey. "While we're glad we can still provide Whittier students with a way to watch such a diverse group of films, this is a big disappointment for VPS. Film is at its best when watched with others, when it's a shared experience. Streaming will be a far lonelier experience for students." VPS is in the works of obtaining links for online viewing to be sent out to the student body and on their social media @wvps.

Whittfest is arguably the most prolific event to be cancelled as a result of the Health Alert. The event, which can be read about in more detail at [thequakercampus.org](http://thequakercampus.org), is effectively cancelled after being approved with a budget of more than \$50,000. "Currently, decisions regarding the monies allocated to Whittfest have not yet been made," said fourth-year ASWC Senate President Destinee Moya. "Program Board and ASWC Sen-

ate's executive board are working to explore next steps. In our continuous efforts to always be transparent with the student body, we will be sure to provide an update once there is progress on the matter."

As of now, the fate of Model United Nations is undecided. The amount of students from Whittier College who would be attending is around thirty, which is under the 100-people limit. However, they would be traveling to an event that would be host to roughly 400 attendees. This comes at a horrible time for MUN, as Whittier College is set to host it this April, and celebrate Dr. Mike McBride's fiftieth anniversary of participating in this event.

Whittier College stated, on behalf of this decision, that "Our goal is to keep you informed to maintain a healthy and positive learning environment at Whittier College."

## Quaker Campus

THE VOICE OF WHITTIER COLLEGE SINCE 1914

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### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Submissions may be emailed to [QuakerCampus@gmail.com](mailto:QuakerCampus@gmail.com) in .doc or .docx format. Submissions must include the author's name and year of graduation or position at the College in the signature. Letters are due by Tuesday at 5 p.m. to make it into that week's issue. Submissions should be no more than 500 words. Letters should be well-proofread, as they will not be edited. Letters that fall outside of these guidelines will be returned to the author with a request for revision.

Due to the high cost of publication, members of the Whittier College community are permitted three copies per issue. Additional copies may be purchased with prior approval for 50 cents each by contacting the *Quaker Campus*. Newspaper theft is a crime, and those who violate the three copy rule may be subject to civil and criminal prosecution.

The *Quaker Campus* does not change material posted on online articles once they have been published in the paper — with the exception of an error being found — only then will a correction be made to the online version.

The *Quaker Campus* is a publication of Whittier College. Columns and signed editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Whittier College or its affiliates.



# Classes flee from the Coronavirus

CONT. FROM "STUDIES STALLED" ON PAGE 1

... over 100 students in attendance have been postponed, or possibly cancelled, for the remainder of the academic year, including "athletic competitions, performances, student-organized events, admission events, and academic gatherings, among others." Whittier will be the largest casualty of this suspension, with over \$52,000 in student funds being affected, though there is not yet word on what will happen to this sum.

Students and visitors to the campus are not required to undergo coronavirus testing and a negative result is not mandated for registration, school attendance, and visitation on campus. However, those experiencing symptoms of respiratory illness, including fever, cough, and shortness of breath are encouraged to stay home, if possible. For those who cannot stay home, "students who live in the residence halls and cannot go home should stay in their dorms until a health care provider such as the Student Health & Wellness Center has advised the student that they are no longer contagious to the community," according to Wohlfarth.

Likewise, residential life will be heavily impacted. The residence halls will remain open during the transition and spring break as well — a decision that is meant to accommodate students that may need extended travel to get to and from home. The library, Center for Academic Advising and Success, Student Disability Services, the Counseling Center, and the Health & Wellness Center will continue operating within normal hours.

Student dorms and dining services will operate within normal hours as well. Since these services will continue to operate as usual, the school stated "The College is continuing to provide regular residence hall and dining services while classes are moved online, so the cost of room and board is not being discounted" on @WhittierCollege Twitter.

The Health & Wellness Center and doctors' offices cannot test for coronavirus. If students believe they have been exposed to coronavirus, they should not visit any medical facility — whether it be the ER or the campus Student Health & Wellness Center. The Health & Wellness Center itself is a limited resource for students to seek if they believe they have contracted the virus, which presents itself with symptoms of respiratory illness, including fever, cough, and shortness of breath. If this sounds like you, first call the Student Health & Wellness Center at (562) 464-4548 for further instructions prior to visiting. The Center's staff will make a determination about the level of medical care you need and either schedule your appointment or refer you accordingly.

"This new protocol is necessary in making sure that we can treat these students and reduce the spread of any virus," said Director of Health Services Stella Wohlfarth. If you have medical needs not related to respiratory illnesses, they still ask that students call to schedule your appointment.

The Spring Break abroad trips Poets have been planning may also be on hold. The Spring 2020 Mexico Cruise, planned by the Office of International Programs, has been suspended be-



DAVID MORENO / THE QUAKER CAMPUS

Washing your hands is the best way to reduce transmission and protect yourself from contracting coronavirus.

cause of coronavirus concerns. This may put students that need to take air travel home for Spring Break in a difficult position as well. Although their dorms will remain open over Spring Break and the following two weeks, "students, faculty, and staff making spring break travel plans should visit the U.S. State Department Travel Advisories and CDC Coronavirus Information for Travel websites for up-to-date advisories," said the Poet Health Update.

Student workers may also be concerned with how this decision to limit personal interaction will affect their jobs. Work study is still available during this period of online instruction. Student workers can also expect to re-

ceive specific information from direct supervisors about work expectations.

Additionally, the facilities department is adding new steps, including installing hand sanitizing stations in buildings throughout campus "to reduce the likelihood of any transmission and to ensure that high-traffic contact surfaces are regularly cleaned," according to Vice President for Finance and Administration James Dunkelman. "[The College] will also be adding hand sanitizing stations in buildings throughout campus as well as hydrogen peroxide based disinfectant cleaning spray bottles in bathrooms for student use. This includes working with our custodial provider to bring additional staff to increase

frequency of cleaning.

Dining services will also change their normal cleaning habits in response to Coronavirus. "Whittier College has decided to eliminate self-service stations at the Campus Inn beginning Thursday, March 12 and until further notice. Attendants will be managing the service of food and beverages. In order to accommodate this change, some food options will be reduced," said Dunkelman.

As for now, the College advises students to stay home if they experience symptoms of the virus. Also, make sure to refresh your memory on "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star," because you will be washing your hands to this tune a whole lot.

## Professors adapt to online classrooms

Autumn Dixon  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Tori O'Campo  
MANAGING EDITOR

For the first time in the history of Whittier College, all classes are being temporarily moved to online-only to prevent the potential spreading of COVID-19, or the coronavirus. As the College has never had to resort to these circumstances, professors of various departments are scrambling to figure out how to remotely structure their classes.

### English

Of course, classes outside of the STEM fields suffer majorly from the nature of online classes. English classes are primarily discussion-based. "Much of what distinguishes a Whittier education is found in our commitment to face-to-face exchanges and experiential learning. These are not things that can be easily reproduced online, particularly for those of us without online teaching experience," said Professor of English Jonathan Burton. "But I can tell you that, within hours of learning that we would shift to online instruction, Whittier professors were already in library workshops developing new skills and exploring new technologies."

### Foreign Languages

With class sessions that are based on interactive activities and students who are graded on their ability to respond with proper vocal annunciation, the

Language Department is still deciding the best course of action on how their department will function out of the classroom setting. "For something like Spanish, they have a conversation-based Spanish class, so it's a little bit weird to do online," said Associate Professor of Chinese, Horng-Yi Lee. "For basic language classes, I have regular quizzes and tests face-to-face, so I don't know how to do that yet. We cannot say that they have take-out exams or have them do basic assignments. It is a totally different experience."

### Performing Arts

"Performing arts classes [are] both literature-based and performance-based, the latter being the more difficult to do online because a huge component of the performance classes is being able to get direct feedback from your peers and professor," said fourth-year Megan D'Souza. "There are so many different factors that make it counterintuitive to record an assigned performance — lights, the way the sound bounces in the space, et cetera."

Gil Gonzalez, Professor of Acting and Directing, agreed with D'Souza's sentiments, saying, "It's impossible to do what we do in person to any of the visual performing arts. It's impossible to replicate the same experience online, both teaching and learning." Gonzalez is hopeful that Moodle will best serve the needs of the Performing Arts department. "Students can record their works and respond to each other

that way. There's also a chat and forum feature in Moodle that we can still continue to have conversations with. My sense is there will be a variety of techniques and resources utilized within the Moodle platform that, within it, offers a lot of opportunities."

### Political Science

Over in Platner Hall, the Department of Political Science has already hosted training on how to use Zoom, an online conferencing platform that will allow professors to host online lectures that substitute the classroom experience, led by Department Chair, Professor Deborah Norden. Norden has used Zoom in her summer online courses. "I am going to learn how to use it, my students are going to learn how to use it, and then they are going to have a new skill set when they go out on the market," said Assistant Professor of Political Science Sara Angevine.

The department also hopes to use the current political climate impacted by coronavirus. "We will be talking about federalism, and how different mayors or cities take different responses, and how we think about equality of protection under the law, and how other nation states are closing down borders are all applicable to political science," said Angevine. Both Angevine and Norden have decided and recommended that they use the synchronous method of online education in order to keep as much structure

for their students while they are learning from a more comfortable setting than the classroom. "Safety rather than anxiety is important, even when it is hard at the moment."

### Visual Arts

Visual Arts are heavily affected by moving classes online, as they require tools and equipment that students do not have at home. This includes various saws, sanders, and welding torches. "I'm putting together kits for the students to take home with assignments they would be able to complete at home or in a dorm," said Head of Visual Arts David Sloan. "We will have a discussion blog outside of class to critique the work of professionals to replace the student work critiques we would do in class." These kits include pre-cut slabs of wood and sanders, and Sloan is trying deciding on whether he will record videos of himself demonstrating techniques to post on the class Moodle.

### STEM

The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math classes have raised concerns over the switch, stating some of their work is reliant on laboratory research, which they cannot do from home. Chemistry Department Co-Chair and Associate Professor of Chemistry at Whittier College Christina Bauer said, "I am in the process of pricing and coordinating online laboratories with vendors that are offering special COVID-19 relief pricing." At

this time, no final decisions have been made in regards to laboratory access. "The Chemistry Department is planning on adopting online course assistance modules for General Chemistry that allow instant feedback in and out of class, and allow for virtual demonstrations and online homework access," said Bauer. "Further, this will be correlated to an online free textbook (OpenStax) to assist students in affordability and provide more modes of learning for our diverse student body."

Associate Professor Biology and Environmental Science Cinzia Fissore expressed similar laboratory concerns with her classes. "Personally, I love the direct interaction with students, especially the collaborative experience deriving from field activities and lab work," said Fissore. "It will certainly be difficult to replace this type of interaction, but I will remain available for class-wide and small group discussions and will develop interactive activities to keep the students engaged."

Regardless of how classes are to be restructured, Fissore said, "It is important to remember that, even though this step may feel onerous to many, it is a small sacrifice that we all need to make to be proactive in slowing down the spread of coronavirus. There are vulnerable individuals in our community that can suffer greatly from the virus and it is everyone's responsibility to step up and avoid unnecessary exposure."



# Rise of coronavirus and xenophobia



Brianna Wilson  
HEAD COPY EDITOR



Ky Watnick  
HEAD COPY EDITOR

News outlets across the globe have been overwhelmed by the latest medical scare: COVID-19, also known as novel coronavirus, or SARS-CoV-2. The World Health Organization has officially declared this virus a pandemic. This is only the latest in a long line of historical panics, even exceeding the effects of the Swine Flu in 2009 or Ebola in 2014. While these other outbreaks were certainly serious illnesses of their own regard, looking back, they certainly did not end up being as devastating to the mass majority of Americans, as we once imagined they would be. The real impact was in the panic and subsequent discrimination that both illnesses sparked. Now, with the coronavirus on the rise, we need to remember that often fear overtakes the media and brings out the worst in people, so let's try to stay both safe and sane during this current health alert.

Right now, countless people are discriminating against people of Asian descent in response to fear over this virus. Scrolling through Twitter, I came across a thread of violent attacks against Asian people with Twitter user @KALONSMERALDO insisting people "PROTECT YOUR ASIAN FRIENDS" with a link to a video capturing an assault on an Asian man. The urgency and repetition of this tweet's message is absolutely necessary; the brutal, mob-like beating in the video attached to this tweet and the stories in the thread that follows it are disgusting, to say the least.

BBC News published an article about Jonathan Mok, who shared that two boys allegedly attacked him while he was walking, and that one screamed, "I don't want your coronavirus in my country" at him. A man attacked a woman wearing a mask in a NYC subway, calling her a "diseased b—h." A hotel employee interrogated a couple of Asian people about whether or not they were coming from Wuhan in fear of them having the coronavirus, refusing to

allow them into the hotel. Another man in NYC allegedly refused to let an Asian man sit next to him on the train, and sprayed Febreze at him after some tense screaming. The *New York Post* published an article about a case in Manhattan, using a picture of an Asian man in Chinatown — absolutely no relation to the woman who actually had the virus. These instances are but a few of the racism-driven panics spurring out of fear of the coronavirus.

Plenty of people are also overstocking on products like toilet paper, water, and sanitary products — especially hand sanitizers (which is only effective against the virus if it's over 60 percent alcohol anyway, and nowhere near as effective as normal soap and water). Why is this happening? Some fear that ports will be closed due to spread of the virus and, as a result, we will not have access to these products. Again, this is a somewhat irrational and anxiety-driven impulse that is affecting the prices of these products, making them unaffordable and unavailable to people who buy toilet paper, water, and sanitary products at normal rates. Panic may lead to inflation and economic devastation much faster than the virus is spreading.

It is important that we keep the facts in mind to avoid these xenophobic acts, overstocking of necessary products, and to minimize the panic. While the coronavirus has resulted in the deaths of over almost 5,000 people, according to CNN's tally at the time of publication, these deaths have been the result of compounding factors. It is those with weak immune systems who find this disease fatal — those who are elderly or otherwise immunocompromised.

However, the virus has a two-day to two-week incubation period, meaning that you can have the virus and not know for up to 14 days. While those of us who are young and/or healthy have little cause to panic over the thought of catching this virus since we are unlikely to die from it, it is possible that we can spread it to someone who is less capable of fighting off the effects. Therefore, we do still need to be cautious and protect ourselves against the virus (and its spread) as best we can.

We also have to keep ourselves updated on the state of the virus. Right now, mortality rates are slowing down in China. South Korea is doing a good job at keeping the virus detained, partly due to available testing, despite being the second-most infected country. The cases within the U.S. are not skyrocketing; though the virus has now touched 21 states, there have still only been a handful of cases in each of these places. Yes, this is still concerning, but we have absolutely no reason to point at every Asian-American we come across and accuse them of having the virus, or to attack them under the assumption that they may be sick. We have no reason to stop eating Chinese food, as my out-of-school coworkers are so adamant to convince each other to do, or to avoid ordering clothes from China, which my cousin suggested I do.

This fear and panic comes from a lack of education, and internalized xenophobia. We need to be reading the news. We need to be optimistic about this. As we have said, we survived the Bubonic plague. We survived Ebola. We will survive this.

We will not survive this without

clean, running water; lather soap in your wet hands, paying attention to the backs, the palms, in between the fingers, and under the nails; scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds; rinse well; and immediately dry with a clean towel or through air drying."

With emergencies such as the

first identified in China rather than another affected country. The first set of cases all appeared linked by a single, large seafood and live animal market in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. It is important to remember that even though the virus had its origins in China, it really could have begun anywhere at any time. There is no reason to think that China or its people have any predilection to the disease, nor any want to spread it.

How can you tell if you have the coronavirus? According to the CDC, the virus presents as a "mild-to-severe respiratory illness with fever, cough, and difficulty breathing."

If you have these symptoms, have been in contact or near someone who has been diagnosed with the coronavirus, or have recently traveled in any of the areas reporting ongoing spread of the coronavirus, you should contact your health-care professional to determine whether you should be tested for the coronavirus. Testing is currently limited in L.A. County, but accessibility is steadily increasing. The Whittier College Student Health & Wellness Center can be reached at (562) 464-4548. For more information on the school's precautions on campus, see *Studies stalled over corona concerns* on page 1.

*"There is no reason to think that China or its people have any predilection to the disease, nor any want to spread it."*

knowing how to protect ourselves, though. Remember: while it is always best to keep your hands clean, this counts double with the coronavirus. The virus itself is coated in a protective lipid layer — something that soap was literally made to destroy. So, the easiest and most effective way to protect yourself and those around you from the virus is simply to wash your hands well and frequently. For those who don't already know, the Center for Disease Control guidelines for proper handwashing is to "wet your hands with

coronavirus, it can be easy to become defensive because we get scared. However, this defensiveness is often destructive in nature, targeting certain groups of people and furthering the divides between cultures, races, and the like. According to *BioMed Central Medicine*, the novel coronavirus was traced back to bats, with the strains in the U.S. and China having nearly-identical sequences. Thus, they likely came from the same individual bat or population of bats, meaning that it is mostly an unfortunate coincidence that it was

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# Corona could cancel Commencement



Jillian Spaulding  
OPINIONS EDITOR

If Whittier College cancels Commencement, they better get ready for a school-wide meltdown. As a graduating senior in my last two months, nothing could have thrown a wrench in my academic career like the COVID-19, or coronavirus. The College sent out an email at approximately 7 p.m. on March 9 that detailed how the school would be following L.A. County's suggestion to postpone all events that attract over 100 people. For Whittier College, such events include Whittfest and, possibly, even Commencement. According to the email sent out by Associate Vice President Ana Lilia Barraza, "Currently, there are no known cases (confirmed or suspected) of COVID-19 on the Whittier campus." However, precautions are still being taken due to the rapid cases popping up around the country, as they're

closing in on Whittier.

As students prepare to go home for Spring Break, the risk of contracting the virus rises. Whittier has many students from across the globe and country, and of those, a substantial amount are from the Bay Area, where multiple cases of the coronavirus have been reported. The school has made the decision to move classes online for the foreseeable future, as well as cancel most events.

Whittfest, one of the College's largest events, has been officially cancelled because of this ordinance, as you can read in *Forgoing student functions* page 1. The money lost to this cancellation is devastating enough, but it makes the ongoing debate in Senate not only a waste of time, but an expensive one. ASWC President Destinee Moya and ASWC Senator Manuel Alvarez refused to comment about this issue.

For me, although Whittfest is a fun time, and I'm sad to see it cancelled, it pales in comparison to the possibility of Commencement being cancelled. "The College has NOT yet decided on whether this new policy will impact Commencement activities," said Barraza. "A decision on Commencement will be made some time after spring break." This is a terrifying thought for those hoping to share a special moment with their loved ones. If Whittier cancels the event that I, and my classmates,

have been working all these years to accomplish, I am, personally, going to be pissed the f—k off.

I understand the seriousness of this disease as can be seen in *Studies stall over corona concerns* on page 1, but to cancel graduation is very extreme. "I honestly find the cancellation of events a bit unnecessary. I understand the health concerns, but, personally, I find the cancellation of graduation very disappointing because I have worked so hard over the past four years to get to this moment. I'm a first-generation college student, and I am going to be the first in my family to get a college degree, yet I won't be able to experience the excitement if the graduation is cancelled," said fourth-year Matthew Gallegos. "We all worked hard to get to where we are at and to have these moments where we can be proud of ourselves and each other, and not having these moments is just sad." I agree, as a first-generation college student, that if this cancellation goes through, my family will be crushed.

Precautions can be taken at graduation to aid in the prevention

of spreading the disease, but, even more, those at risk or afraid of the disease can just not show up. I would rather have members of my family not attend than have the entire event cancelled without a set plan to reschedule it. Through the second email sent the following day, it was clear that no plan has been made if commencement does get cancelled. The Office of Marketing and Communications has denied to comment further than the statement that has been sent out through email.

The College had better be ready to reimburse students for

all of the graduation regalia and fees they have made us pay thus far. The cap and gown packages through Heriff Jones range from a minimum of \$200, and stoles cost a minimum of \$40 each, many of which are already ordered. Whittier College has yet to offer what alternatives they will offer in place of the cancelled graduation. What I need to know is if the cancelled graduation will be rescheduled. Then again, there is no telling when this disease will be under control, so I guess the class of 2020 is screwed.



COURTESY OF WHITTIER DAILY NEWS

There have been no updates about plans for Commencement.

# Jill Biden A.K.A. Joe Biden's bodyguard



Abigail Sanchez  
STAFF WRITER

Super Tuesday, which fell on March 3, is the day in which the greatest number of U.S. states hold their primary elections. This year, the two frontrunners for the Democratic party were Senator Bernie Sanders and former Vice President Joe Biden. Despite lagging behind on the Iowa caucus and New Hampshire primary, Biden began picking up steam with the Nevada caucus and South Carolina primary, foreshadowing his rise on Super Tuesday, where he won 10 states, while Sen. Sanders won only 4. However, the number of delegates won from each candidate remains close.

In the break between the results of each state, CNN showed Biden delivering a speech on his progress during Super Tuesday. During his speech, a protester ran up on stage waving a sign reading "Let Dairy Die." Security removed her just

as another protester went up on stage waving a sign with the same message. Protesters at a rally aren't all that surprising; in fact, they are to be expected. After all, these "Let Dairy Die" protesters have been present at Democratic Presidential Candidate rallies for a while now, hoping to draw attention to their goal of ending the dairy industry. However, when I saw these protesters running up on stage, one person caught my attention: Dr. Jill Biden, Biden's wife.

When the first protester ran on stage, I watched how Dr. Biden immediately put herself between the protester and her husband before security took the protester off the stage. Just as the first protester was carried away by security, the second rushed the stage towards Biden. Dr. Biden grabbed the wrists of the second protester and pushed the protester away from her husband. At that moment, Symone Sanders, Biden's Senior Advisor, grabbed the protester around the waist and dragged her off the stage, along with other staff members. It was unforgettable, and at that moment, I knew if Dr. Biden ever ran for president, she would definitely have my vote.

At 68 years of age, the former second lady of the U.S. proves that age and gender don't matter when it comes to protecting those you love. "I think it was noble that her first instinct was to protect her husband from protesters despite the possible danger," said first-year

Chloe Winn. "It shows that she was concerned for her husband and was willing to do something about it." When it comes to a fight, one would expect the man would leap in front of the danger, and the woman would stay off to the side. This was not the case for Dr. Biden, as she showed the public that she will protect her man at all costs. Dr. Biden was trending on Twitter the following Wednesday as people compared her to Wonder Woman and her techniques to something they would see in the National Football League. According to the *Washington Post*, Amy Siskind, an American activist, tweeted: "If any NFL teams are scouting for a right guard, Jill Biden is available."

With her previous work advocating for teachers and military families, Dr. Biden is slowly becoming my role model. She is a strong, determined, no-nonsense kind of woman. I would not be opposed to having her as the first lady of the U.S. Coming at the protester while wearing a skirt and obtaining three degrees — one of which is a doctorate — shows all the girls



COURTESY OF LOS ANGELES TIMES

Biden is not the only candidate with protestors, but the only whose wife has been involved.

at home that you can be smart and courageous at the same time.

This act of bravery was not a one-off event. At a New Hampshire rally, a heckler was seen shouting as he moved closer to Biden's podium while recording. A few people attempted to block him from getting nearer to the podium, but it was Dr. Biden who jumped off from her seat and escorted the man away from her husband. According to *CNN Politics*, when asked about the incident by reporters, Dr. Biden laughed and said, "I'm a good Philly girl." Honestly, how much better can she get?

However, with these two incidents in mind, the real question people are asking is: Where is the

Secret Service? Vice Presidents are only assigned Secret Service agents for six months once their term is over. However, with what happened on Super Tuesday, people are starting to think that Biden and Senator Sanders, both major Presidential Candidates, should be assigned a protection detail. While I absolutely love seeing Dr. Biden serve as a role model for girls and young women, I also think it is important to make sure that Presidential Candidates and their families, don't get hurt. Until such time, let's hope that no one decides to mess with Biden, or else they will have to deal with his own personal 'Secret Service agent' Dr. Biden.



# Entertainment in the time of coronavirus

Kristi Weyand  
A&E EDITOR

Grab your rave masks, coronavirus is on the loose, and this isn't a corona you can beat with a lime. Music festivals are famous for being closely-packed with thousands of probably-intoxicated individuals. With cases of coronavirus on the rise, both in the U.S. and globally, many music festivals and entertainment events have been cancelled. What will happen to festivals cancelling last minute, and what is the future for those who have yet to announce a cancellation?

Earlier this month, Miami officials cancelled two music festivals that attract hundreds of thousands of people to Florida. While there are currently 12 confirmed cases of and two deaths from the coronavirus in Florida, no residents of Miami have been diagnosed with the coronavirus. Officials still found it beneficial to cancel Ultra Music Festival and Calle Ocho Festival to dampen the spread of the disease, not just in Florida. According to *Relentless Beats*, Ultra Music Festival, which recently celebrated its 20-year anniversary, drew a crowd of approximately 165,000 people to its location of Bayfront Park. Calle Ocho, an event during Carnival Miami that dubs itself the largest Latin music festival in the nation, has attracted over one million attendees to its festival grounds which span Little Havana.

Who knows if festival-goers are abiding by the first of the Center for Disease Control's recommendations for curbing the spread of illnesses: avoiding close contact and maintaining distance. Of course, for those traveling by plane, the airports they would travel through allow for plenty of personal space. According to Miami International Airport, 4,211,272 people travelled through the airport, leaving elbow room to spare.

However, not just music festivals are impacted. The film, music, and creative industry festival South by Southwest, which is located in Austin, Texas, was cancelled in early March as well. According to the *New York Times*, a petition calling for the cancellation of SXSW signed by approximately 50,000 people was partially responsible, alongside the withdrawal of tech companies, for government officials and festival organizers to decide to cancel the event. Now the outbreak in Austin is the spread of financial woes as festival attendees, performers, and local businesses are wondering how/if they will recover money sunk into SXSW or



JILLIAN SPAULDING / FOR THE QC

**Coachella, which organizers have pushed back to October, packs thousands of people in close quarters to swap spit and sweat.**

make up for lost business.

Film premieres and releases have also been greatly impacted by coronavirus fears. The new James Bond movie *No Time to Die* (perhaps the real fiend in this situation is the fact that Bond movies are still made) was set to premiere in April, but this was postponed until November. According to *The Hollywood Reporter*, the movie may take a hit of \$30 to \$50 million in profits. As Colin Jost joked on the Weekend Update segment of *Saturday Night Live* when Bond star Daniel Craig hosted,

grunge being more responsible than the government. Hopefully, with an Amazon campus located in the city, residents will at least be safe from the apparently coronavirus-caused toilet paper shortage even if their entertainment has been cancelled. However, a case of coronavirus was confirmed on the campus, so maybe people were right to stock up. In San Francisco, many events have been cancelled — ranging from the Saint Patrick's Day parade to the second annual Daly City Rock and Roll Flea Market. Jeopardy

public health emergency. Pardon me, but I don't think Alice and her friends are going to be maintaining social distance at a rave. Why should people worry if organizers are acting as if there is no risk? If organizers are going to place profit over risk, it is just as rational for attendees to prioritize fun over health.

Three new cases were reported in Coachella Valley on Monday, March 9 and Riverside County declared a state of emergency upon receiving its first positive coronavirus patient. Now, the

*“The coronavirus’s impact in the U.S. is still unknown as of now and likely for a while, but entertainment events are questioning where the line of safety and precautions should lie.”*

perhaps the movie should keep its premiere date and be retitled “Time to Die.” Business Insider reported that other movies, such as *Mulan*, *Sonic the Hedgehog*, and *Bloodshot* will all have delayed releases in China as a result of the continued closure of 70,000 theaters in the region, and the production of the seventh *Mission: Impossible* (also known as the seventh too many) in Italy has been halted as a result of how rapidly coronavirus is sweeping through Italy.

In Seattle, a city in the midst of an outbreak that originated from poor containment of the disease, organizers cancelled Emerald City Comic Con. The Seattle-based band Pearl Jam cancelled their North American tour after the escalation of the virus in the city. Personally, I'm not too shocked to see

and Wheel of Fortune will be airing without a live audience (to be fair I didn't know they still had an audience beyond me and my cats).

Even with the cancellations listed above and state and local governments declaring states of emergency, some event organizers have decided to forgo precaution. At 11:14 p.m. on Wed. March 11, California Governor Gavin Newsom announced that California would cancel all events with over 250 people. However, as of the time of print, Insomniac Entertainment has yet to release an official statement cancelling Beyond Wonderland. This rave will occur March 20 – 22 in San Bernardino and has an attendance of about 40,000 people, even though San Bernardino County has also declared a

fate of Coachella and Stagecoach is no longer still in the air, as, according to *Billboard*, Goldenvoice Entertainment, the company that manages these festivals, pushed them back to October. Additionally, organizers of BNP Paribas Open, a tennis tournament that was to be held in the Coachella Valley, cancelled the tournament due to coronavirus fears. According to the BNP Paribas Open, the tournament had a total gross impact of \$406,602,107 on Coachella Valley's economy in 2017. That year, over 400,000 people attended the two weekends of the tournament and, of these, 87 percent of unique attendees traveled from out of town. This is similar, but slightly less, than the attendance of Coachella. Considering the paranoia of disease

outbreaks in recent years due to the intimate contact of attendees, it is no surprise that Coachella followed suit (or borderline culturally appropriate outfit).

According to *Forbes*, almost 500,000 people attended the two weekends of Coachella in 2019; the number of attendees has greatly increased since the first incarnation of the festival. In 2019, there was an alleged outbreak of herpes. The app HerpAlert reported an increase in inquiries about herpes in the first two weekends of Coachella in 2019. However, as reported by the *Rolling Stone*, the rates of sexually transmitted infections are not actually on the rise at music festivals. Herpes symptoms do not arise until two to 12 days after sexual contact, which means, in the words of journalist EJ Dickson, “few people would report symptoms within 24 hours of having sex with a fellow festival attendee in a Porta-Potty.”

While it would seem that there actually is not a correlation between music festivals and STI rates, the close and rather personal proximity of people at these events could result in an increased risk of transmitting other diseases, such as the coronavirus. Even Whittier College found it pertinent to cancel Whittfest and other events with over 100 attendees for our large and highly enthusiastic audience!

The coronavirus's impact in the U.S. is still unknown as of now and likely for a while, but entertainment events are questioning where the line of safety and precautions should lie. Now, dating apps are (at least, according to themselves) prioritizing the wellbeing of their users, even at the risk of their business. Tinder has released an announcement, directing users to “maintain a social distance” which, let's face it, defeats a large part of the purpose of the app. Perhaps it's no longer a question of when the coronavirus will affect relationships, but how? Matching masks to closed movie theaters?

Now is not the time to panic, especially not over the state of our entertainment, but people should still be cautious when attending crowded areas. Rave culture might need to be re-examined pending a coronavirus outbreak; all I ask is please keep your masks on for at least 14 days after returning: Peace, Love, Unity, and Respect for Hygiene? As for other entertainment, maybe audiences should rethink the elbow-deep tubs of popcorn at movie theaters. Who knows what is to come for entertainment in the time of the coronavirus?

## Keeping cool during quarantine

Autumn Dixon  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Spring break conjures to mind images of drinking long into the night while partying with groups of strangers in intimate settings. Well, much like the class meetings for the two weeks after spring break, that's cancelled.

The *Atlantic* reported that the coronavirus is potentially ten times deadlier than the flu, and that the only solution to curbing the rapidly spreading disease is so-

cial isolation. “Before China canceled all public gatherings, asked most citizens to self-quarantine, and sealed off the most heavily affected region, the virus was spreading in exponential fashion,” stated the article. “Once the government imposed social distancing, the number of new cases leveled off; now, at least according to official statistics, every day brings more news of existing patients who are healed than of patients who are newly infected.”

The school's decision to make classes online for the next two

weeks allows students the opportunity to self-quarantine. On campus events have been cancelled as a result (see *Foregoing student functions* page 2) and students who are stuck in their homes for three weeks are left wondering what to do while their online classes are not in session. Worry not! Below is a list of activities you can do while flying (sitting alone in your room) solo.

Three weeks is a lot of time, just enough to revisit your favorite movie series. Whether it's *Harry Potter*, *Star Wars*, or *The Princess Diaries*, the opportunity presents itself

to watch the multi-movies series that make us feel a little safer.

Take up a hobby! For around \$5 each, you can purchase a set of 12 acrylic paints, a multipack of canvases, and a paintbrush starter kit. You can put together this DIY therapy kit for only \$15, and provides hours worth of entertainment.

For those who are trying to keep spending to a minimum, or don't want to head to the store, try practicing yoga and meditation. Studies have shown that meditating triggers the neurotransmitters that regulate psychological disorders

such as anxiety, which have risen in individuals during the pandemic.

Read! Everyone's reading preferences are different, so I won't tell you what to read, but this is a great time to catch up on all those *New Yorkers* piling up, or things you have pushed aside to finish class readings first.

In addition to socially isolating yourself, it could be beneficial to isolate yourself from social media. The wide spreading of misinformation and panic is also harmful, so do your best to take care of both your physical and mental health.



# Wheels up, team! Time to say goodbye

Brianna Wilson  
HEAD COPY EDITOR

**Spoiler alert: This article contains spoilers for *Criminal Minds* — namely, the last episode (Season 15, Episode 10).**

Where am I going to get my weekly dose of psychopaths now?

I'm dramatic. I could watch *You* or all those episodes of *NCIS* that I missed, but now that *Criminal Minds* has aired its last season, I'm stuck in a 'what do I binge-watch now?' position. I can't see myself ever becoming as attached to a show as I was to *Criminal Minds*. I'm not an avid viewer of television in the first place (honestly, I'm much more of a YouTube geek), and *Criminal Minds* was the only show I have ever kept up with or watched fully through. Though some episodes were very disturbing — so much so that I could only handle seeing them once — I still watched every single episode at least one time. *Criminal Minds* was my comfort show in my second year of high school, recommended to me by my mother when I was going through a tough time, and I've been watching and rewatching it since. Now that it's gone, and I have no new content to look forward to, I'm sort of bummed.

Sure, there are countless episodes I could return to, but no more team? No more new psychopaths for them to catch? Seriously, it's like my family all moved away from me, and I only have videos to watch over and over again when I miss them.

At the beginning, *Criminal Minds* was a fantastic representation of the

Behavioral Analysis Unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It was so good at what it did, in fact, that my Forensic Psychology professor showed an episode ("Profiling 101," Season 7, Episode 22) in class for us to discuss. Eventually, the show became way more wrapped up in the good guys than the bad guys, but, luckily, it did a fantastic

Unfortunately, the last episode didn't sit very well with me. For the most part, I think I'm still trying to wrap my head around everything that happened. I am happy for the team; they caught a psychopath that taunted David Rossi, one of the first members of the BAU, and escaped them like a cockroach — how did he even survive all of that? — for

member of the team. Foyet targeted Aaron Hotchner and his family; Breittkopf toyed with Jason Gideon. It's always satisfying for viewers when they stop these psychopaths — especially since it often ends with death, a kind of vengeance for all the harm they caused our favorite characters. I was personally very happy when they finally got Lynch;

Max at all in this episode! What about Reid? He didn't get much of a chance to speak to the characters who are still alive throughout the episode, and it's always in his team and his mother that he finds his closure. As much as I missed Donovan, I think her reappearance was sort of tasteless, and it didn't offer viewers much other than seeing Reid in pain over missing her again. Justice for Reid! He deserves better than this!

The last few minutes of the episode shocked me. Penelope Garcia is leaving the BAU? Of all the people to leave the team, did it have to be the one person who has never been absent from the show for more than one episode at a time? Of all people, did it have to be the one that truly glued the team together? We can't forget all those times she tampered with paperwork to prolong the process of one of her team members leaving. I honestly would have been less shocked if Reid had not woken up from a severe head injury (although I would have been way more upset, had he not come back to us).

Overall, I'm just really happy that no one died. We made it through 15 seasons with very few main-character casualties. How many television shows last for 15 seasons anymore? Again, I don't watch television very often, but I feel like I hear about shows being cancelled, renewed, tossed around from one streaming service to the next every other day. I feel like I won't find a show that pulls me in, keeps me interested, develops as much, and lasts as long as *Criminal Minds* ever again. In my mind, *Criminal Minds* is and always will be an unmatched series.



COURTESY OF POLYGON

After 15 season, *Criminal Minds*, one of the longest running law enforcement shows has ended.

job developing the characters and keeping viewers hooked. The team kept me coming back, personally. If I hated the characters, I think I would have given up watching, despite how awesome the concept of an entire show about criminal profiling (something I'm vastly fascinated about) is. Lucky for me, the show had a great cast, even with all the one-season team members, so my viewing experience was never hindered.

a number of episodes.

Everett Lynch, or "The Chameleon," was reminiscent of other taunting killers, like George Foyet, also known as "The (Boston) Reaper". He, oddly, showed up in Doctor Spencer Reid's trauma-induced hallucinations during this last episode. Ian Doyle, Peter Lewis ("Mr. Scratch"), Frank Breittkopf, and a number of others tormented the BAU, often focusing on one specific

he was starting to get on my nerves, always slipping through the cracks of the BAU's fingers.

For the most part, it was Reid's delusions that threw me off. Maeve Donovan's reappearance broke my heart. I believe the producers were trying to give Reid closure for everything he went through, but I don't think they did a great job at doing so. What about his new love interest? We didn't see

## Theater shakes it up Student art walks our way

Jillian Spaulding  
OPINIONS EDITOR

Indie notes filled the dusk air as student artists set up tables to represent their art. The courtyard was circled with tables lined with pink fur, yarn, and roses that drew the eye to the even more pleasing works that student artists created. On Friday, March 6, students gathered in the courtyard to appreciate their fellow students' art. This art was not that which adorns the walls of the old Wardman Gym, but is the essence of the art community currently on campus.

Poet Entertainment teamed with creatives whose art is both practical and unknown on the campus. This art varied from embroidery, crochet, jewelry, and printmaking. Without any clubs on campus that revolve around art, this was an amazing chance for artists and craftsmen to spread their name. Students sold their art and congregated with like-minded souls as Tino Venti of Tomorrow's Tessellations DJ'd alongside visual art in Club 88. This event allowed artists to not only showcase their work, but also to identify other students who are not art majors, but just as passionate about creating.

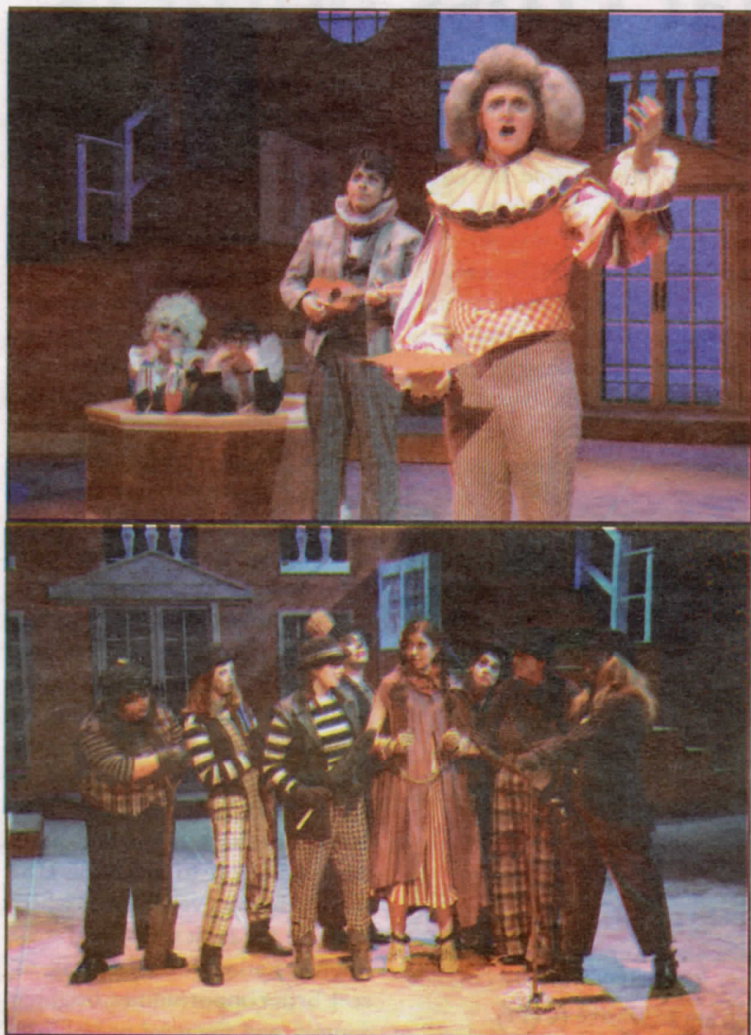
As I walked around the tables, I discovered that for these students, art is ingrained in their lives. "Both of my parents are artists, so my whole life has revolved around art," said first-year Phoebe Frolick, who sold homemade jewelry. She cannot imagine not speaking through her many forms of art.

"It's the only thing that says anything real," said Frolick. "Not to bash doctors because that's obviously a big deal, but I feel like the people who use their voice are the people that make art." Without the outlet and mediums of art, the world would lose so much of what makes it human.

Art acts not only as a vessel for speech, but also as an escape. "It's always been something I really love; it makes me escape from this reality," said third-year Gabriella Rodriguez. She uses her art as a way to escape the mundane. "It allows me to be myself without any boundaries," said Rodriguez. Her work centers around a worm, named Wormie, and its adventures through life. People can follow Wormie's adventures @wormie\_little

Students lingered at tables, strolling into Club 88 to continue the escape for the night.

Towards the last half of the Art Walk, the band Jay Es joined the fold of creators. Many students were surprised to see the event, but for those showcasing, it was long awaited. The event was put on by Poet Entertainment and presented over Student-L; if students are interested in having more events like this, they should let the department know. Any feedback will help Poet Entertainment know how to improve such events in the future; stop by their office in the Campus Courtyard or send an email. Students can go to the Office of Student Engagement to create an event or club to strengthen the art community on campus.



COURTESY OF STEVEN BURNS PHOTOGRAPHY

Whittier College's Theater Department's production of William Shakespeare's *Two Gentlemen of Verona* ran at the Ruth B. Shannon center from March 5 – 8. While it was performed in Early Modern English, the costume department set characters in surrealist costumes, some with colorful wigs. Additionally, the script changed the ending; the play took a #MeToo approach and ended the romance between a sexual assaulter and the woman he was originally pursuing.



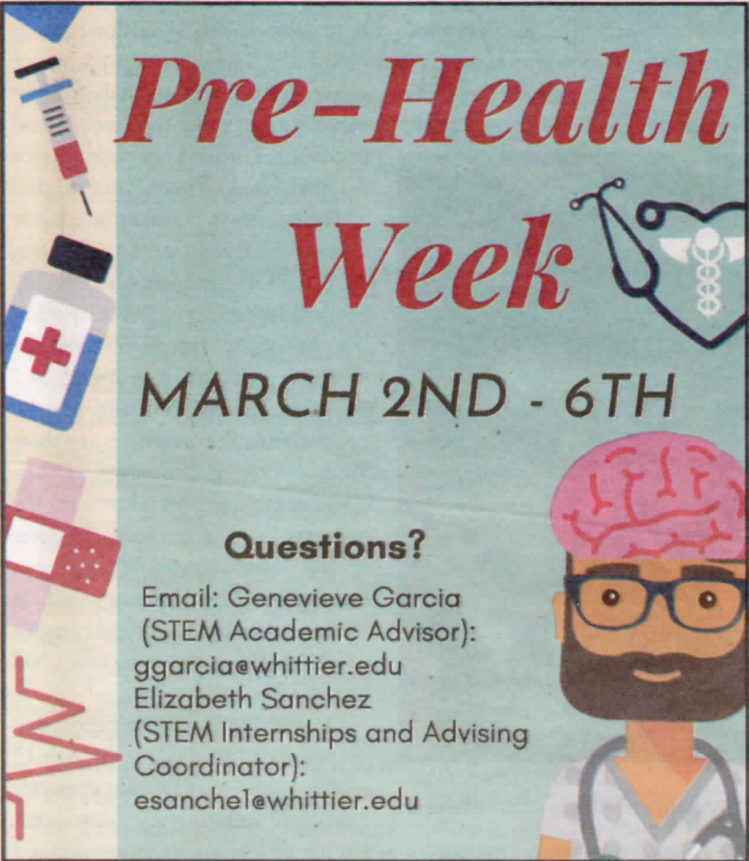
JILLIAN SPAULDING / FOR THE QC

First-year Phoebe Frolick had a groovy theme at her table.



# Pre-Health week precedes health crisis

## But, where is representation for other studies?



The flier for pre-health week displaying details about it.

Sawyer Belville  
FOR THE QC

As a majority of STEM majors know, last week was Pre-Health Week. I am not a pre-health major, nor am I interested in health or medicine, but, like most college

students, I'm not one to pass up extra-credit. One of my professors offered a pretty generous amount of extra credit points to attend one of the events, so, of course, I did just that. I attended the alumni panel on March 3; the panelists were alumni Dr. Elisa-

beth Brown and Dr. Manuel Cruz. I found the alumni panel very educational. I was impressed with the panelists' information, advice, and mostly, their authenticity. Dr. Brown attended Whittier in 1994, where she received her Bachelor's in Biology. She took a gap year, then went to University of New Mexico School of Medicine, where she received her graduate degree in medicine. Brown said when choosing a graduate school, she was very picky. She interviewed at very prestigious and well-known programs like Columbia University and the University of Southern California, but she did not appreciate the environment or her interviewers. I respected her choice to go to a lesser-known program because that's what felt right and comfortable to her; she did not let her ego or pride pressure her into attending a school she felt did not have a healthy environment. She is now a Family Medicine doctor at Presbyterian Inter-community Hospital, Whittier; she volunteered at PIH dur-

ing her undergraduate years and liked the environment enough to return five years later.

Dr. Cruz graduated from Whittier in 2013 with a Bachelor's in Biology and received his Master's from Universidad Autonoma de Guadalajara School of Medicine in 2018. He passed his Federation of State Medical boards only a few months ago, and went into detail on how international graduates are required to achieve higher marks on these examinations than American graduates. He is currently working as a Postgraduate IMG Physician at University of California Los Angeles Health, while he waits for admission into a residency program. Third-year Kaitlin Howard, who also attended this event, commented, "I want to be a physician, so getting to hear from these experienced individuals was really cool. I took a lot

away from it."

My main take away from this event, and from the constant flow of emails I receive from our hard-working STEM advisors, is that there is a myriad of resources available for those interested in medicine or the science side of health, but not an abundance of resources or events for other students. What about students like me who want to study conservation, wildlife, ecology, etcetera? I have never had the opportunity to talk to a professional in the field I want to go into. Last year, I attended an alumni panel put on through as soon as possible that had an engineer, a cyber-security director, and a chemist, which was incredible. However, that is the most diversity I have found at any of these "STEM" events. As informative and eye-opening as these events are, a greater array of professions need to be represented in order to equally and efficiently present students with information about their professions of interest, or expose them to professions they did not know existed or did not yet know they were interested in.

# Untold women's stories that cross borders

Marianella Perez  
FOR THE QC

In light of Women's History Month, we must pay attention to all women and the diverse experiences that they all face. We must think of Latina women, Black women, Asian women, Indigenous women, Muslim women, and trans women. We must think of all the women who fought for true equality — equality across the board — not just the spotlight few. In a campus where the growing majority of the student population is Latinx, and within that the majority being women, we must think of the Latina women who have crossed borders and countries to provide a better future not only for themselves and their immediate family, but for their entire communities. Women with no knowledge of the English language, educational backgrounds, or legal authorizations to work cross the border to seek better opportunities every day.

On Monday, March 9, four Latina women that work with Community Education Program Initiative, a program on campus that connects undergraduate students with community adult learners, visited Whittier College. These women came to speak at Garrett House about their experiences as immigrant women in the USA. They all shared the sacrifices

that they made to be here in the U.S., as well as their stories as immigrants.

The first woman shared her experience of having to leave her two children back home and travel to the U.S. in order to be able to financially provide for them. During her time here, she ended up having another child who was diagnosed with severe autism. Balancing two different

coming to the U.S. at 10 years old, when she was not able to make that decision for herself. She did not come voluntarily, but decided to make the best out of her reality. She had to learn English and assimilate into American culture — not out of want, but out of necessity. She later received her citizenship and has dedicated her life to tutoring other immigrant Latina women to study for their

border and helped her find a job. Crossing the border at night one day, she fell very hard and hurt her foot. She was told she could either stay there and get sent back or keep walking. Today, she tells her story with pride; she was able to cross the border and later able to bring her kids, who have both graduated with college degrees.

The last woman shared about her experience migrating to the

from everyone she came across that she could get deported at any moment. This constant fear made her stay in the house and eventually drove her crazy. She decided to finally step out of her comfort zone so that her daughter could have new experiences. Unlike the other women, she was very privileged in many ways, but the move hit her emotionally — more than anything. She felt this way because she never felt at home. She used language as a way to maintain her culture for herself and her family. Her language has helped her make a community in a place that did not welcome her. The Spanish language was the only pride she had left, the only thing that could not be taken away from them.

Latina women represent strength in every single aspect. Immigrant women have left everything back home and have made an effort to make the U.S. feel like home, even at times when they are the least welcomed. Immigrant Latina women migrate to seek better opportunities, brighter futures, and financial or political stability. We must commemorate not only immigrant women everyday, but all of the marginalized women who are often excluded from women-run movements. It is our duty to continuously strive for intersectional thoughts and actions, to help all women — not just the ones who speak the loudest.



Garrett House is often the meeting place of Community Education Program Initiative (CEPI).

COURTESY OF WHITTIER COLLEGE

families in two different countries without fully being here nor there has definitely taken a toll on her. That is what she sacrificed to be able to have a better future and provide that for her family as well, even if that meant her not being present to see them flourish.

The second woman talked about

citizenship exams. She now works for the census during the elections because she finds it important to lift Latinx voices.

Another woman shared how her mother came to the U.S. without knowing anyone or where she was necessarily going. She paid someone to help her cross the

U.S. and how she blindly followed her husband, who had a glamorized idea of what the U.S. would look like. Once she got here, she faced one obstacle after another — language barrier, financial problems, and the constant fear of deportation. She was constantly terrified of being outside, told



## Opening love within the Whittier community

Haley Vallejo  
ASST. CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

As a part of the city's day of community service, the College came together to volunteer and give back to Whittier. On March 7, Whittier College participated in the city-wide festival Love Whittier. Love Whittier is part of the city-wide volunteer days organization Love Our Cities. Love Our Cities has expanded beyond its origin of Modesto, Calif. by using a community-based model. Focusing on working alongside the City, Love Our Cities's involvement has opened up new relationships within different communities, including here in Whittier. The

church group that started Love Our Cities in 2009 grew beyond their own community to involve others, even those who did not belong to the church. The people at Love Our Cities believe that starting with a city-wide volunteer day acts as a catalyst for all sorts of other involvement and momentum to continue giving back to the city.

Every year in Whittier, the City comes together for a "Serve Weekend" with the goal of meeting the needs of the community by creating various service projects led by different groups. Love Whittier has gained a lot of traction and has gathered people from all walks of life to participate in this special weekend.

On the Love Whittier website, they explained: "We are a group of people who love our city and want to see our community thrive. The main goal of this weekend is to attempt to meet the tangible needs of our neighbors, community, and city

Director for the CEC Gina Lopez, the CEC staff, Program Coordinator for Whiter Scholars Program Joanna Diaz, Victoria Gonzalez '18, Cru Club, member of Cru Lucas Holbert, third-year Journee Bradford, and fourth-year Norma De la Rosa.

The CEC organized Love Whittier on March 7 with various events hosted by several organizations. The College hosted a rally to kick off the day of volunteering with projects on and off-campus. The events hosted on campus included scarf-making for elders, backpacks for School on Wheels, hygiene kits

for Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital, teacher appreciation, firefighter appreciation, a movie night for children, and a laundromat giveaway. The community events were on Friday and Saturday, but the College's events were on Saturday to accommodate the public events being held. In

the morning, there was breakfast provided to community members. The campus was bustling so early on that Saturday; when I arrived at 9 a.m., there was a large group of people who had already gathered for breakfast — the start to a day of service!

While I was there, I participated in the hygiene-kit-making in Club 88.



HALEY VALLEJO / QUAKER CAMPUS

Volunteers form an assembly line to create hygiene kits in Club 88 in one of the events held during Love Whittier.

We were all lined up, given jobs, and the process began. Our assembly line put the hygiene items in bags; some had feminine products, while others were for men. The assembly line worked quickly and packed bags that ended up filling multiple boxes to be given out. Afterward, we picked up boxes of laundromat bags filled with cleaning necessities and headed out to local Whittier laundromats. People were curious and surprised to see us handing out

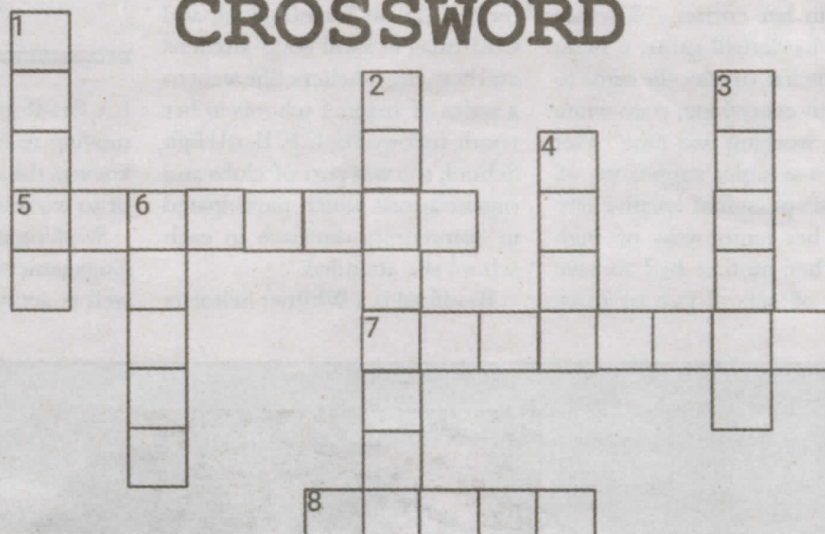
free laundry supplies, but those who accepted were really happy that the school wanted to give back to the community. "Participating in Love Whittier on campus not only gives students the opportunity to give back to their community, it also allows them to engage with residents in the area," said third-year Victoria Navarro, a volunteer for Love Whittier. Love Whittier was a much needed day of service in today's climate.

*"Love Whittier has gained a lot of traction and has gathered people from all walks of life."*

COURTESY OF ART WITH IMPACT

On Monday, March 9, the Counseling Center teamed up with Art with Impact and Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission to create a "Movies for Mental Health" event at 11 am in the Graham Athletic Center. Water, sandwiches, fruit, chips, and cookies were available for students in attendance. The event showed three award-winning short films from the Olive Film collection that all dealt with mental health. The films shown were: *Three* by Karen Hua, a narrative account of different ways three students coped with mental illness; *Still Here* by Britney Denison, a documentary about a man named Jason and his lifelong struggle with bullying, self harm, and coming to terms with his sexuality; and *Blue* by Samuel León, an artsy representation of the harsh reality of the way substance abuse and addiction take control of lives. The short films were all around three to five minutes. Between each film, there were discussions about mental illness, stigma surrounding it, the challenges of getting help, and similar topics that related to the films.

## SPRING BREAK CROSSWORD



Compiled by:  
Ky Watnik  
HEAD COPY EDITOR

### DOWN

- Many people go on \_\_\_\_ over Spring Break.
- Many students flock to the coast for the \_\_\_\_ and clear weather.
- Maybe take some time to connect with \_\_\_\_, as many say it can be healing.
- Or you can take a break from the buzz of school at \_\_\_\_.
- If you take some time for yourself, you may finally be able to do this.

### ACROSS

- Movies often show students \_\_\_\_ over Spring Break.
- Though we want to avoid it, Spring Break can be the best time to catch up on this.
- When depicting Spring Break, most shows have a scene at one of these.

1. TRIPS; 2. SUNSHINE; 3. NATURE; 4. HOME; 5. RELAX

6. PARTYING; 7. HOMEWORK; 8. BEACH

ANSWERS



# Compassion, Journee Bradford gets it from her mama

Emmanuel Jones  
FEATURES EDITOR

Roxlyn Washington, Journee Bradford's mother, and her late pastor Dr. Murphy L. Hunt are her two inspirations. "Dr. Hunt was always willing to help other people, no matter how much of an inconvenience it was for him. He was always willing to go out of the way for others. From a young age, I saw him doing this and looked up to him almost like a grandpa," Bradford stated. "He was a huge leader in the city and even the state. He was a hero without even trying. He made you want to be a better person."

Bradford is a third-year at Whittier College. In her time here, she has left a tremendous impact on the school and continues to honor the legacy of her heroes. She founded the Black Student Association, was one of the primary organizers of Whittfest, and is working alongside President Linda Oubré to have Whittier College officially recognize Martin Luther King Jr. Day as a holiday. Her quest to have MLK Day observed actually got her recognized by the *Los Angeles Times*. Taking on as many active roles as possible is in Bradford's nature, as she shared, she enjoys being busy.

Washington was extremely dedicated to providing for and raising her family, which Bradford noted as one of the ways she has inspired her. Bradford also stated how her mother would always motivate her, even if she did not want to hear it. Her mother has always been the person in her corner. "Whether it was a basketball game, a swim meet, a recital, or play, she came to just about everything, even when she was working two jobs." Her mother was super supportive of Bradford's pursuit of creative arts. During her junior year of high school, her mother had to take her out of school two or three



Journee Bradford (left) uses the determination her mother taught her to promote equity and foster community on campus. Fellow models Alyssa B. (middle) and Miquisha October (right) are pictured above.

times a week to drive or fly her to performing arts school auditions. She would even set up mock judges panels for Bradford to practice in front of. She also encouraged large crowds of friends and family to come out to support Bradford in her plays.

As a child, Bradford was heavily involved with her church. There, she got her first platform to sing in front of an audience and had the opportunity to sing at numerous events for her school and community. She also did community service with her church, in addition to the work her and her mother do on Thanksgiving and Christmas at local soup kitchens and homeless shelters. She went to a series of magnet schools in her youth, followed by C.E. Byrd High School; she was part of clubs and organizations which participated in community outreach in each school she attended.

Bradford is a Whittier Scholars

Program major studying Business and Entertainment Management, which she plans to use after graduation to start her own four-in-one: recording studio, production company, management agency, and record label. Given the limited professional opportunities in her small hometown of Shreveport,

Black Student Association, and independently running Jay Galore Hair Extensions LLC., her own wig/weave-making business — all while being a full-time student, can definitely be a lot to manage. Bradford confessed that being involved in so many different things can get overwhelming, but says that she is

*"I would like to see the Black community come together, [and] black students receive more support from faculty and staff."*

— Journee Bradford

Third-year BSA President, Entrepreneur, Social Justice Advocate

LA, Bradford has long dreamed of moving to L.A. Most people she knew in the area went into nursing or to work in the oil industry.

Working at the Office of Student Engagement and a local theater, as well as acting as president of the

able to handle it through meticulous organization of her schedule. One of her strategies has been only having classes two days a week and scheduling all of her meetings with faculty on those days. Even then, she has to make use of her limited

that imitation is the truest form of endearment and almost inevitable, especially when you are creating something truly original.

With all her endeavors on campus, Bradford has been very appreciative of the support she has received from faculty; however, this is not always the case. She mentioned, "It can be a little frustrating when they [are not], but I think that's how I learn to balance things and to decide what I'm willing to give my energy to."

One of the undertakings Bradford has been focused on is the BSA. She created the club to provide a community and support system for Black students. "I would like to see the Black community come together, [and] black students receive more support from faculty and staff," she shared. Through BSA, she has been able to host multiple social events on campus, giving students — particularly students of color — a chance to mingle, including a silent disco and Trap Karaoke. Bradford noted that, in her time at Whittier, her social awareness and engagement have grown, even past what her mother and pastor taught her. She stated, "If it was possible to become even more aware and advocate even more regarding social issues and race, then that is how I changed."



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JOURNEE BRADFORD

On top of her on-campus job and being the president of the BSA, Journee Bradford runs a weave and wig-making business, models for which are pictured above wearing Jay Galore Hair Extension products (left to right): Daija Brown, Destiny Williams, Miquisha October.



# Marty Gardner is here for the kids

CJ Esparza  
FOR THE QC

"The kids," Marty says. "The kids are the reason I am here."

We're sitting in The Spot on a typical Thursday afternoon, watching a small flow of students pile in for a late lunch. Coffee is poured over ice and burger patties are plopped on the grill as Marty tells me what she feels is the most important work she does in this venue: forging connections with the students.

Martha Anne 'Marty' Gardner was born in Los Angeles, but has lived in La Mirada and Whittier for most of her life. She has been a cashier/barista at The Spot for 11 years, enjoying the job because of her love of the interactions with so many different students from such different walks of life. Before coming to Whittier, she was a baker who was happy just to be around people all the time. Working at The Spot has only highlighted how

important her friendly demeanor and genuine interest in people is in a school setting. Marty engages with all the students who walk up to her cash register, helping them come out of their shell and learn to be comfortable taking up space in a setting that can be intimidating for some by being friendly and striking up genuine conversations with all.

"There's so much more to learn in college than from just reading a book," she says. "It's amazing to see a kid coming in here their first year, hiding behind a sweater and not talking to anyone, and then overtime they start dressing however they want. Start talking to everyone. College really has people open up and discover who they are."

Having a son who attends San Diego State University, Marty recognizes the unique opportunity a small campus offers to encourage such personal growth. She notes that the campus has only become more diverse over the years, and appreciates that amidst all of the

differing opinions, the community still manages to engage in conversation without turning to violence. "I feel like this generation gets such a bad rap. You guys are called lazy, but you're not. You care so much, and you're always trying to help wherever you see it's needed."

Marty's efforts to contribute to the kindness of the community has not gone unnoticed. In April 2018, she won the Marilyn Veich Award — becoming the first non-faculty member to win the honor. She finally gestures to the large, flat black box she brought with her. Carefully removing the lid, she takes out a glittering crystal balancing on top of a small stone pedestal. Etched into its face is "Marty Gardner: For her outstanding contribution to Whittier College and dedication to the students."

"I cried when I first got the call about the award," Marty looks at the trophy as if still in disbelief. "It was voted on by you, the students. And that's what makes it so important."



EMERSON LITTLE / QUAKER CAMPUS

Marty Gardner was the first non-faculty member to win the Marilyn Veich award. She won by popular student vote.

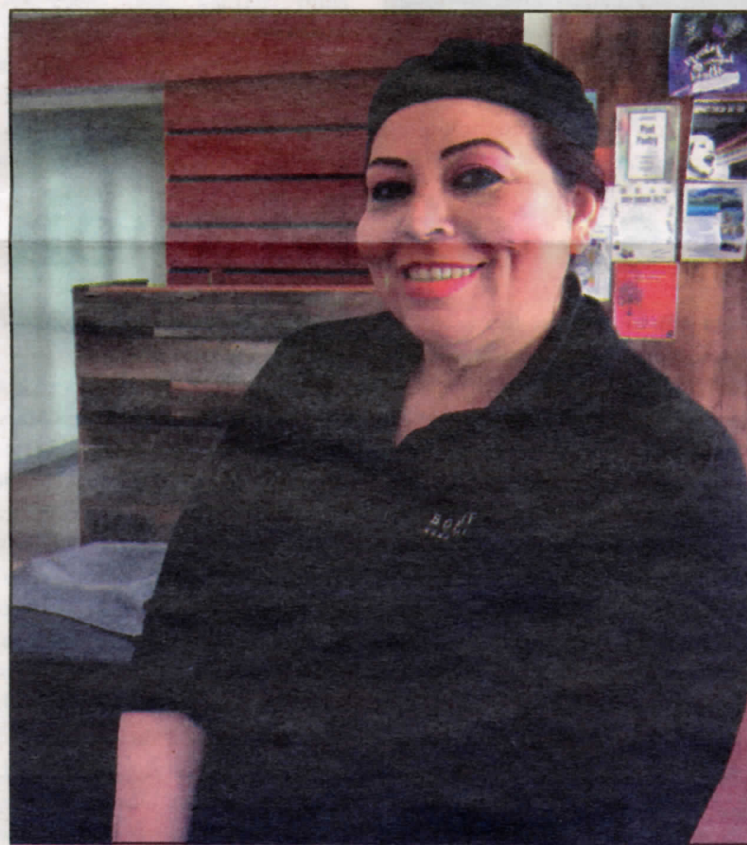
# Daisy Machado: From El Salvador to our hearts

Gabriel Perez  
FEATURES EDITOR

The community fostered at Whittier College is a humble and intimate one, to be sure (especially compared to the small-city campuses of our UC and CSU neighbors). Even so, the institution requires a tremendous amount of work and commitment to maintain. In fact, it is precisely the small scale of this institution that makes the roles of each of its constituents so indispensable. From professors and administrators to the less recognized but equally essential members of the Facilities Department, Campus Safety, and Bon Appétit, Whittier College cannot function without the hundreds of individuals dedicated to serving students day in and day out.

One such individual is Daisy Machado, a cashier for Bon Appétit and essential member of the Whittier community for the last 12 years. I first met Machado last summer, when working at the Center for Advising and Academic Success. She visited the office on a handful of Thursday afternoons, hauling in a bulky cart topped with breakfast refreshments — muffins, pastries, coffee, and the like — for our registration events on Friday mornings. We traded names and personal histories. "¿De donde eres?" I asked her. "¿Qué estás estudiando?" she asked me. Our conversations were brief, but they never failed to brighten my day.

Machado's diasporic journey from El Salvador to Southern California reminded me of my own family. I shared with her that my paternal grandparents, from whom I take my middle and last names, were born and raised in Agua Prieta, a humble Sonoran border pueblito. My late maternal grandmother, from whom I take my height and healthy skepticism, grew up in the famed Jalisco metropolis of Guadalajara. Despite hailing from distinct corners of Latin America, their stories, struggles, and legacies have much in common. Each of them had ventured to the U.S. before age 21 in pursuit of new and promising opportunities for



GABRIEL PEREZ / QUAKER CAMPUS

Daisy Machado, Salvadoran mother of four, brightens campus with a warm smile and fierce work ethic.

their families, all eventually putting down roots in L.A. When I think about community, culture, agency—I think of my grandparents. They are the fountainhead of my Xicano identity; everything I am is thanks to and rooted in their fierce work ethic, strength of purpose, and the sacrifices they made to secure a brighter future. I see all of these qualities in Daisy Machado.

A native of San Miguel, El Salvador, Machado navigated adolescence against the backdrop of a brutal civil war, which ravaged the Central American state from 1980–92 and claimed over 75,000 lives (mostly noncombatants). It was not long before the conflict reached Machado's doorstep. She decided it was time to leave after being recruited by guerrilla insurgents as a teenager. Her concerns were well warranted: with substantial support from the U.S., El Salvador's national military and state-sanctioned

paramilitary death squads, according to *Migration Policy Institute*, "were responsible for thousands of disappearances and murders of union leaders, community leaders, and suspected guerrilla sympathizers, including priests and nuns." Recognizing the threat to her own safety and that of her family's, Machado fled the country with her brothers at age 17 and settled in L.A. in 1985.

Machado's mother "estaba triste" to see her daughter go, "pero happy" knowing she and her three brothers were leaving behind "una vida muy difícil" in pursuit of new and promising beginnings. Aside from the profound loss associated with such an exodus — of which family separation is a common feature — Machado acknowledged the additional challenge that came with her undocumented status. "No tenía papeles," she said. "¿Cómo se dice? . . . Mojada," she

laughed. Machado's struggle speaks to a larger, longstanding manifestation of systemic violence — to which terms like *mojada* trace their roots, and the normalization of which is the result of a conception of citizenship too closely tied to basic human dignity.

Entrenched in Cold War crusades, U.S. immigration policy during the latter half of the 20th century, particularly toward migrants fleeing the national theaters of its proxy conflicts throughout Central and South America, was very careful about who it regarded as refugees versus those it regarded as "economic migrants." Refusal on behalf of the U.S. to acknowledge the wholesale repression and egregious human rights violations committed by the Salvadoran and Guatemalan governments (no doubt inspired by the Reagan administration's crucial role as the architect and foremost proponent thereof), drastically altered trends in migration.

In 1984, for example, a year before Machado traveled to the U.S., approval rates for Salvadoran and Guatemalan asylum cases fell below three percent, compared to 60 percent among Iranians, 40 percent among Afghans fleeing the Soviet invasion, and 32 percent among Poles. Actively discouraged by the Justice Department and Immigration and Naturalization Service from applying for political asylum, according to *MPI*, Salvadorans and Guatemalans arrested near the U.S. highly militarized southern border were "herded into crowded detention centers and . . . thousands deported" before ever receiving legal advice or being informed of the possibility of applying for refugee status. Machado's heart goes out to the migrants still suffering from the same institutional violence today.

Upon arriving in the U.S., having circumvented the obstacles outlined above, Machado took a few high school night classes before beginning to work. A single mother of four — with two children in El Salvador and two in the U.S. — Machado was determined to put herself in a position that would

enable her to provide for her family. Reflecting on the 35 years she's lived in the U.S., it is clear she succeeded. She often misses her home and family, but does her best to visit every other year.

Machado's experience at Bon Appétit initially began at DreamWorks Animation in Glendale before she was transferred to Whittier College some 12 years ago, where she has been ever since. Machado reflects fondly on her experience at Whittier. Her "buenos recuerdos" include meeting international workers and students during the summer, interactions that have helped her pick up a little Italian, Japanese, and Russian. She also loves to hear from students she befriends, who are anxious to update her on the goings on in their lives — from getting promoted to getting married.

When asked about some challenges of working at Whittier, Machado replied, "Getting up early; sometimes leaving late." This pales in comparison, though, to a notable highlight of her Whittier experience, which Machado is justly proud of: being awarded the Key to the College by Associated Students of Whittier College in 2014. "It was a big surprise," said Machado. The "very nice" golden key is displayed in her home today, an enduring reminder of the hard work and dedication she has shown to the campus community.

Commenting on recent contract negotiations and hopes or concerns for the future, Machado's grace and relentless optimism shines through: "I'm very grateful for the support the students showed us," she said. "We're happy. We'll keep going." She encourages all Whittier students to "keep studying. Your degree will take you anywhere in the world."

Above all, Machado is committed to serving others. "I like to help people," said Machado. To many of the Poets she has grown close to over the years, "I feel like a second mom." During our interview, Machado received a warm, enthusiastic greeting from a student passing by — a testament to her legacy on campus of *ganas, razón, y comunidad*.



# Stop the clock! Whittier Athletics put to a halt

Jesse Gonzalez  
SPORTS EDITOR

While students and professors might be frantically restructuring their academic plans as classes move online, Whittier College athletics are also facing the effects of the coronavirus as the 2020 Spring semester might look a little different than what was originally scheduled. “We are taking this day by day,” said Director of

Athletics Rock Carter. “We are in communication with [President Oubré], and whatever the school decides to do, we, of course, will follow as well.” It is not secret that the “coronavirus” has been spreading across the world, taking a toll on traveling and increasing the precautions taken for their students and athletes. This not only affects professional sports teams globally, but college-level sports as well.

National Collegiate Athletics Association President Mark Emmert announced Wednesday Mar. 10, citing consultation with public health officials and the NCAA’s coronavirus advisory panel, “essential staff and limited family” will be the only additional spectators in attendance. “My decision is based on the current understanding of how [coronavirus] is progressing in the United States,” Emmert said in the statement.

“This decision is in the best interest of student athletes. We recognize the opportunity to compete in an NCAA national championship is an experience of a lifetime for the students and their families. Today, we will move forward and conduct championships consistent with the current information and will continue to monitor and make adjustments as needed.”

As for how this affects Whittier College, Carter says that competing teams are taking measures for the safety of their athletes and are not traveling to California. In efforts to meet the NCAA tournaments, this team is still going to travel for their away games. For our campus, this means the Men’s Lacrosse team will no longer have any home games. Home games that were once scheduled will now be played at the opponent’s home fields.

Men’s Lacrosse is not the only team that had a few of their games get cancelled. Baseball, softball, and Women’s Water Polo did as well, as

teams from the East Coast are no longer sending their teams out West. For the cancellation of games, it goes as follows: four games for softball, baseball, and Women’s Tennis, then two games for Women’s Water Polo and Men’s Tennis. Carter also explained how, so far, the Southern California Athletic Intercollegiate Conference will not be affected as well. Conference play is still going on unless their institutions are shutting down their campuses similar to how Whittier is doing for two weeks after Spring Break. This is also for the remaining weeks in the month of March, as the school, along with the athletic departments, has yet to decide for the rest of the semester.

Many questions are still going to be raised: how will the school go about athletic competitions if we return for the remainder of the semester, and if the school stays online for the rest of 2020? How will teams be able to have games in their record to play for a SCIAC championship? We still have almost another month to await this decision.



COURTESY OF CWDRIVER.COM

Women’s Water Polo is one of the many teams that will have games cancelled.

# Let the Madness of March begin

Arturo Muñoz  
SPORTS EDITOR

March is the time of the year when the weather starts to transition, midterms stress out students and professors alike, and everyone loses sleep thanks to Daylights Savings. But nobody enjoys the month of March quite like basketball fans. “March Madness” occurs during the second half of the month in which collegiate basketball games are consistently being played. The National Collegiate Athletic Association March Madness Tournament is an epic tournament where some of the best colleges compete in a win-or-go-home tournament, which is always filled with excitement.

The tournament starts with 68 Division I teams looking to win it all. The higher seeds, normally five

through one, want to show their dominance and prove why they were considered the best throughout the year. The lower seeds, 16 through 10, want to have a *Cinderella Story* and make the impossible happen with some giant upsets, which usually happens throughout the tournament. Some teams have a tremendous year and a great team set up to win it all — just to get knocked out by a mediocre team. Seeds in the middle, from nine to six, tend to get knocked out in the second round by the higher seeds.

What makes this tournament so exciting is the players; they put everything on the line. This can be seen as a good or bad thing, as players are at risk of suffering serious injuries that can jeopardize their future, but some players view winning the tournament

as a way to advertise themselves to professional teams, and winning it will greatly increase their chances of getting drafted. I recall during a previous year of the tournament that a player had a gruesome leg injury during the elite eight part of the tournament. All he could think about was the game, asking his coach and teammates to win, and was unconcerned about his leg. While that might not be anyone’s favorite part of this tournament and it shouldn’t be it shows the amount of commitment and drive each of these players have to win.

What makes this tournament more exciting is the great upsets and epic comebacks. Each tournament tends to have one memorable moment that usually takes the form of last-second moments in a really close game between two power-house teams, or

low seeds giving their all to continue playing in the tournament.

Every tournament, viewers pick a team to root for in the March Madness Bracket Challenge. This is a challenge where millions of fans submit a bracket where they try to predict the winners of matchups, ultimately predicting the winner of the whole tournament. Many sports-related websites participate in this challenge, but the two main sites have always been *ESPN* and *CBS Sports*, which give cash prizes for the brackets that most closely reflect the final bracket. Math professor at Duke University Jonathan Mattingly reported that the odds of predicting each match-up correctly is 1 in 2.4 trillion, making it almost impossible for someone participating in this challenge to get everything correctly.

The Men’s March Madness Tournament is set to start next week with the full bracket and teams to be revealed on March 15 and the tournament to start on March 17 with the First Four to take the floor first. The finals will be in Atlanta Ga. on April 6. Women’s start on March 20 and the final will take place in on April 6 in New Orleans, La. For now, the projected winner of March Madness for Men’s is the University of Kansas. For Women’s, it seems the University of Connecticut is favored to win once again. Though, these predictions mean nothing, as the tournament is always filled with surprises; being the number one seed does not help you with anything.

In a recent occurrence on Wednesday, March 11, the NCAA ruled that every game for March Madness will be played without any fans in attendance. This new ruling takes a certain atmosphere from the tournament as many teams feed off of the energy of the fans, and this certainly changes many things when teams go out to play. The March Madness is not the first tournament to take fans out of the equation as The Union of European Football Associations Champions League, a tournament where the best soccer clubs play against each other, did not allow fans in two games so far in Spain and France. The first division soccer league in Italy has stopped all league games until April and, there is discussion of the league ending in the middle of the season. Additionally, the National Basketball Association has the suspended the season, momentarily after Rudy Gobert of the Utah Jazz was confirmed to have the virus.



COURTESY OF BROADCASTINGANDCABLE.COM

A game ball, center-court, ready for March Madness tip-off.